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**FAX COVER LETTER**

August 26, 2004

**TO:** Examiner Irshadullah  
**COMPANY:** U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
**PHONE:** 703/308-6683  
**FAX:** 703/872-9306

**FROM:** Steven C. Lieske  
**DIRECT DIAL:** (612) 607-7508  
**EMAIL:** SLieske@oppenheimer.com  
**RE:** U.S. Patent Application No. 09/444,739  
 Examiner: M. Irshadullah  
 Art Unit: 3623  
 Attorney Docket No. 60021-335501

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that the following documents are being facsimile transmitted: Request for Continued Examination (RCE), Fee Transmittal, Petition for Three-Month Extension, and Amendment and Response (Total 26 pages), to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Janet ByrneAugust 26, 2004

Date

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PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  Address to: MS RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Application Number	09/444,739
	Filing date	November 22, 1999
	First Named Inventor	Michael G. Mikurak
	Art Unit	3623
	Examiner Name	Irshadullah, M.
	Attorney Docket Number	060021-335501

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

**1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114**

a.  Previously submitted

- Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_.  
b.  Enclosed
 

i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment(s)/Reply	iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
ii. <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)	iv. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>Petition to Extend Time, Fee Transmittal</u> .

**2. Miscellaneous**

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of 3 months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(l) required)

b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Fees**

a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-1901.

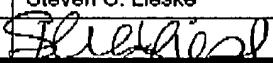
- RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) - Large Entity Fee \$770.
- Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 3 Mos. \$950.
- Other Suspension fee - \$130.

b.  Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print/Type)	Steven C. Lieske	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	47,749
Signature		Date:	August 26, 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Janet Byrne
Signature	
	Date: August 26, 2004

OPPENHEIMER: 2257052 v01 08/26/2004

<b>FEE TRANSMITTAL</b>		<i>Complete if Known</i>		
<b>for FY 2004</b>		Application Number	09/444,739	
<i>Patent fees are subject to annual revision.</i>		Filing Date	November 22, 1999	
Applicant Claims Small Entity		First Named Inventor	Michael G. Mikurak	
TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT		Examiner Name	M. Irshadullah	
\$1,850.00		Group Art Unit	3623	
		Attorney Docket No.:	060021-335501	

<b>METHOD OF PAYMENT</b>		<b>FEES CALCULATION (continued)</b>			
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Authorized to charge indicated fees or credit		3. ADDITIONAL FEES			
Deposit	50-1901		Large Entity Fee	Small Entity Fee	
Acct No.			Code (\$)	Code (\$)	
Name:	Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly LLP		Fee Description		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge Any Add'l Fee Required Under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17		1051	130	2051	65
		1052	50	2052	25
		1053	130	1053	130
		1812	2,520	1812	2,520
		1804	920*	1804	920*
		1805	1,840*	1805	1840*
		1251	110	2251	55
		1252	420	2252	210
		1253	950	2253	475
		1254	1,480	2254	740
		1255	2,010	2255	1,005
		1401	330	2401	165
		1402	330	2402	165
		1403	290	2403	145
		1451	1,510	1451	1,510
		1452	110	2452	55
		1453	1,330	2453	665
		1501	1,330	2501	665
		1502	480	2502	240
		1503	640	2503	320
		1460	130	1460	130
		1807	130	1807	130
		1806	180	1806	180
		8021	40	8021	40
		1809	770	2809	385
		1810	770	2810	385
		1801	770	2801	385
		1802	900	1802	900
		Fee Description			Fee Paid
Claims	- 20 =	Extra Claims	Fee	Fee Paid	
Ind.	- 3 =		86/43		
Claims	Multiple Dependent		290/145		
Large Entity Fee	Small Entity Fee				
(\$)	(\$)				
18 9	Claims in excess of 20				
86 43	Independent claims in excess of 3				
280 145	Multiple dependent claim				
86 43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent				
18 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent				
		SUBTOTAL (2) \$0.00			
		per fee (specify) <input type="checkbox"/> Suspension Fee			
		*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee			
		SUBTOTAL (3) \$1,850.00			

SUBMITTED BY		<i>Complete (if applicable)</i>	
Name	Steven C. Lieske	Registration No.:	Telephone: (612) 607-7508
Signature	<i>Steve Lieske</i>	Date:	August 26, 2004